

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method for detecting a state of an electric motor includes: energizing the motor with electrical power such that an associated current applied to the electric motor rises over time toward a reference level; determining an amount of time that elapses between when the motor is energized and the reference level is reached; and, evaluating a state of the motor based upon the determined amount of time.

N:\XERZ\200662\JPC0000183\V001.DOC